

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 04110 201644Z

72

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 HEW-08 AID-20 IGA-02

SPC-03 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 /126 W

----- 041211

R 201505Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5582

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4110

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICEM, XK, SREF, CS

SUBJECT: U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM OF THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION
(ICEM)

REF: STATE 217677

SUMMARY: ICEM LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM IN COSTA
RICA IS BENEFICIAL TO COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT. ICEM
APPEARS TO BE WORKING ON SHOE-STRING HERE AND CUT IN ITS
FUNDING MIGHT SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE PROGRAM. GOCR HAS
FORMALLY EXPRESSED TO EMBASSY ITS STRONG SUPPORT ICEM
PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

1. SINCE THE INITIATION OF THE SELECTIVE MIGRATION
PROGRAM IN 1964, ICEM HAS SENT QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS AND
PROFESSIONALS TO COSTA RICA ON A CONTINUING BASIS. THE
NET IMPACT OF THIS RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN THE
EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT HAS BEEN BENEFICIAL TO
COSTA RICAN DEVELOPMENT.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAN JO 04110 201644Z

2. THE GOCR IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE DATED NOVEMBER 9 APPARENTLY SENT IN RESPONSE TO AN ICEM INITIATIVE, INFORMED THE EMBASSY OF ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE ICEM PROGRAM STATING THAT IT HAS BEEN "HIGHLY FRUITFUL, SINCE BY MEANS OF IT (COSTA RICA) HAS BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN A SELECTED IMMIGRATION WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COSTA RICA." EMBASSY HAS SEEN COPY OF A LETTER SENT BY FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO TO COSTA RICAN PERMANENT DELEGATION IN GENEVA INSTRUCTING THAT DELEGATION TO INDICATE COSTA RICA'S INTEREST AT NEXT ICEM MEETING IN CONTINUING TO RECEIVE THE DIRECT HELP PROVIDED BY ITS PROGRAMS.

3. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTEL.

A. ARE SKILLED MIGRANTS AND PROFESSIONALS STILL NEEDED? YES.

B. DO MOST ICEM MIGRANTS REMAIN? THE MAJORITY DO. HOWEVER, THOSE COMING AS UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND MUSICIANS (ABOUT 25 PERCENT AS COMPARED WITH 75 PERCENT RECRUITED FOR INDUSTRY) TEND TO STAY FOR ONLY A FEW YEARS.

C. IS ICEM SUPPLEMENTING OTHER AVAILABLE OUTSIDE SOURCES OF SKILLED WORKERS AND PROFESSIONALS? TO EXTENT IT IS. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING IN COSTA RICA (OAS, FAO, OTHER UN PROGRAMS), AID AND PEACE CORPS BRING IN TECHNICIANS FOR LIMITED PERIODS. COSTA RICA HAS ALSO EXPERIENCED WAVE OF RETIREES, MOSTLY FROM U.S., SOME OF WHOM HAVE TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS, WHICH CAN BE UTILIZED UNDER SPECIFIC CONDITIONS ESTABLISHED BY LAW.

D. HOW DOES GOCR CONTRIBUTION TO ICEM COMPARE WITH ITS CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER IOS?

DATA MORE EASILY AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT.

E. DOES LOW PERCENTAGE GOCR CONTRIBUTION AS COMPARED TO NON-LATIN COUNTRIES REFLECT LACK OF INTEREST? NO. IN EMBASSY'S OPINION, LEVEL GOCR CONTRIBUTION MERELY REFLECTS LACK OF RESOURCES. GOCR HAS BEEN REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO ICEM SINCE 1953. IT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM SINCE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAN JO 04110 201644Z

1972. ICEM OFFICE HERE CLAIMS THAT IT IS SATISFIED WITH LEVEL OF GOCR CONTRIBUTION AND, IN GENERAL, WITH ITS PAYMENTS RECORD AND BELIEVES THAT GOCR CANNOT GIVE MORE AT THIS TIME.

F. SHOULD THE PROGRAM BE EXPANDED?

ICEM'S LOCAL REP BELIEVES THAT LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM IN COSTA RICA COULD BE MORE THAN DOUBLED TO COSTA RICA'S BENEFIT. EMBASSY

AGREES IT COULD PROBABLY BE EXPANDED BUT
WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO ASSESS PROGRAM IN
GENERAL BEFORE SO RECOMMENDING. APPROXIMATELY
43 TECHNICIANS ENTERED UNDER PROGRAM
IN 1972, 32 IN 1973 (RECRUITING HURT BY
CURRENCY DEVALUATIONS EFFECT ON SALARIES). IN
1974 ICEM PLANS TO BRING IN BETWEEN 40 TO 45.
G. EHOULD HIGHER GOCR CONTRIBUTION BE SOUGHT?
PROBABLY NOT AT THIS TIME. GOCR WILL GIVE
\$8,407 TO ICEM IN 1974, \$2,180 OF WHICH IS SCHEDULED
FOR THE VOLUNTARY L.A. PROGRAM. OVERALL ICEM CON-
TRIBUTION (INCLUDES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT AND
REFUGEE PROGRAM) HAS RISEN STEADILY ACCORDING TO PER-
CENTAGE ASSESSMENTS SINCE 1953 WHEN IT WAS \$3,005.
H. WOULD PROGRAM REDUCTION HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS?
ICEM OFFICE HERE HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT
EVEN A 5 PERCENT TO 10 PERCENT CUT IN ITS BUDGET WOULD FORCE IT
TO CLOSE UP SHOP. ICEM HAS ONLY ONE OFFICER AND ONE
SECRETARY WORKING ON COSTA RICAN PROGRAM; ALTHOUGH IT
APPEARS TO RECEIVE FROM, AND PRESUMABLY ALSO GIVES
SOME SUPPORT TO, TWO OFFICERS AND ONE SECRETARY
ATTACHED TO REGINAL OFFICE ESTABLISHED HERE.
VAKY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANJO04110
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731122/aaaaaqea.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 217677
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jan-2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION
TAGS: SREF, XK, CS, ICEM
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005